

Welcome to the State Controller's Office
PAR Errors:

How to Identify Them and How to Avoid Them



Normal State: Please click on the images above for important information regarding this eLearning.

Tools State: To advance through the course, click the "Next" button on each slide.

Should you have problems viewing or playing this course, please contact the Personnel/Payroll Training Services Unit at ppsdtraining@sco.ca.gov to request assistance.

Note that this training contains no audio.

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All examples and scenarios are fictional. Any similarities between characters and agencies are purely coincidental.

Books Instructions: The purpose of this training is to provide an additional resource for personnel employees to accurately determine and avoid the common PAR errors sent to PPSD for keying. You will need to verify your resources in all transactions.

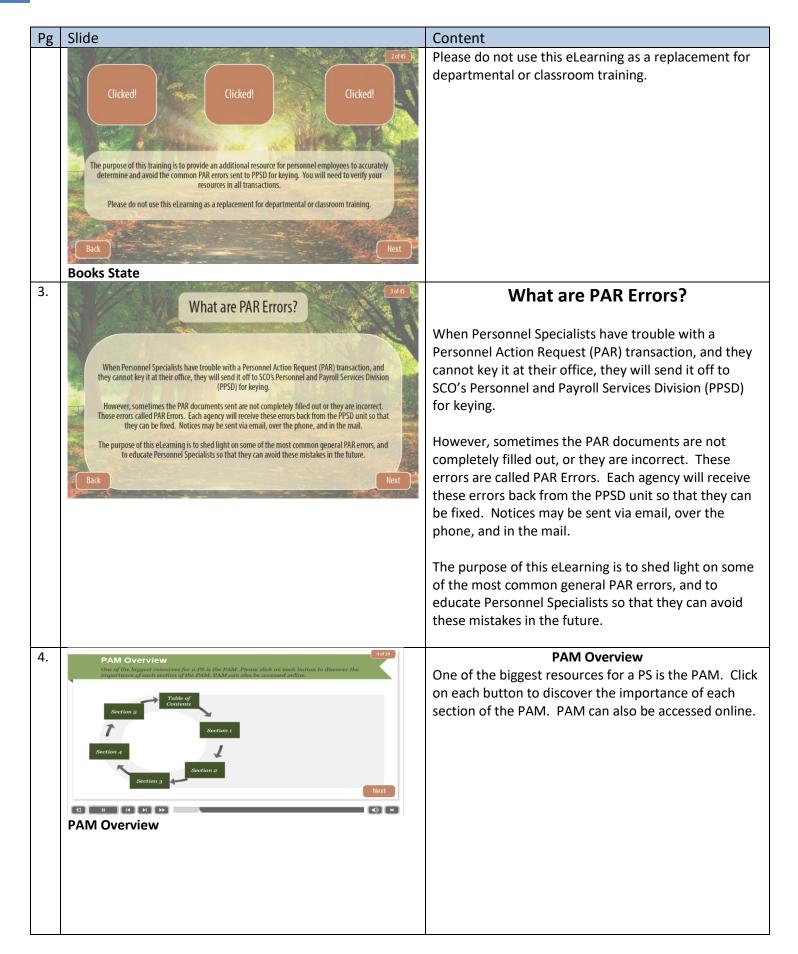
Normal State

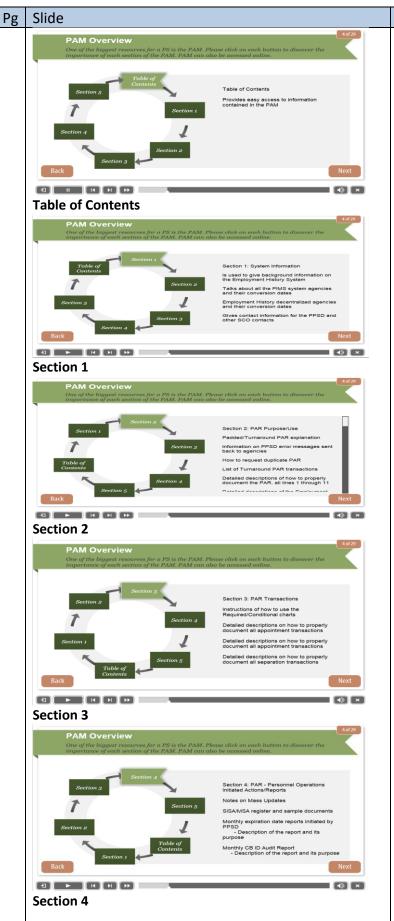


Tools State



Updated 07/02/2018





Provides easy access to information contained in the PAM

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Provides information on all the PIMS system agencies and their conversion dates

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Gives contact information for the PPSD and other SCO contacts

Section 2: PAR Purpose/Use

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Detailed descriptions of the Employment History information in line 12.

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Instructions of how to use the Required/Conditional charts

Detailed descriptions on how to properly document all appointment transactions

Detailed descriptions on how to properly document all miscellaneous transactions

Detailed descriptions on how to properly document all separation transactions

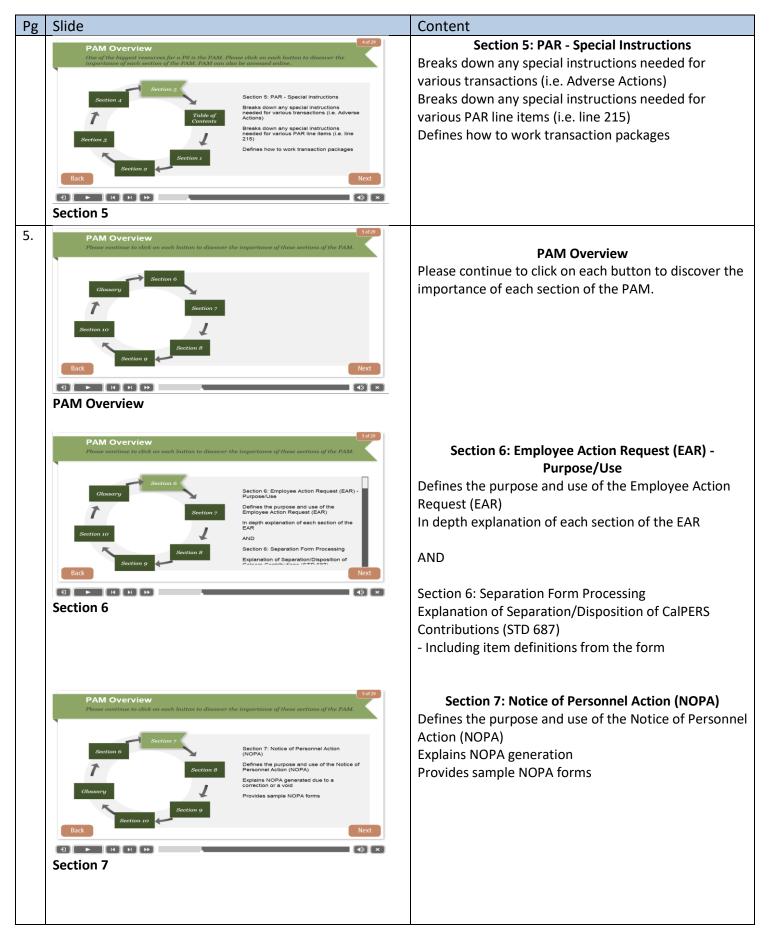
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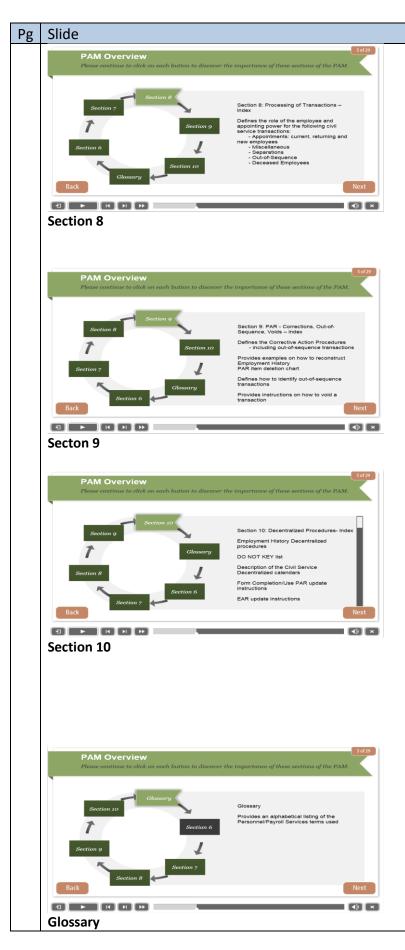
Notes on Mass Updates

SISA/MSA register and sample documents

Monthly expiration date reports initiated by PPSD

- Description of the report and its purpose Monthly CB ID Audit Report
 - Description of the report and its purpose





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Defines how to identify out-of-sequence transactions Provides instructions on how to void a transaction

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Provides an alphabetical listing of the Personnel/Payroll Services terms used

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Slide Pg Below are the Departmental Transaction Errors as defined by PPSD in the PAM, section 2.1 Padded and/or Turnaround PAR(s) will be returned via a Form PSD 40 - Notification of Correction/Cancellation of PAR Transaction(s), to the appointing power when any of the following conditions exist: Not documented on the current Turnaround Transaction does not meet any Freezee Criteria applicable at that time Item(s) incorrect or left blank Supporting documents that are required are Incomplete package not attached Transaction is unnecessary Action(s) submitted are not legal Transaction should be keyed by the · Appointing power/concurring appointing decentralized department power signature is missing Transaction requires SPB/DPA prior approval Transaction package is incorrect/incomplete · Line 12 of the turnaround PAR is cutoff

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Below are the Departmental Transaction Errors as defined by PPSD in the PAM, section 2.1

Padded and/or Turnaround PAR(s) will be returned via a Form PSD 40 - Notification of Correction/Cancellation of PAR Transaction(s), to the appointing power when any of the following conditions exist:

- Not documented on the current Turnaround PAR
- Item(s) incorrect or left blank
- Incomplete package
- Transaction in unnecessary
- Transaction should be keyed by the decentralized department
- Transaction requires SPB/CalHR prior approval
- Transaction does not meet any Freeze Criteria applicable at that time
- Supporting documents that are required are not attached
- Action(s) submitted are not legal
- Appointing power/concurring appointing power signature is missing
- Transaction package is incorrect/incomplete
- Line 12 of the turnaround PAR is cutoff

Ceneral PAR Errors

Let's look into a few of the PAR errors mentioned on the previous slide. These are errors that are not specific to any one type of PAR transaction, but mistakes made on all different types of transactions:

Agency keying versus PPSD keying
Turnaround PAR versus Padded PAR
PAR missing information or including too much information
PARs missing signatures
Corrections
Duplicate PARs

Next

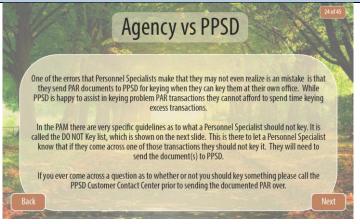
General PAR Errors

Let's look into a few of the PAR errors mentioned on the previous slide. These are errors that are not specific to any one type of PAR transaction, but mistakes made on all different types of transactions:

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- PAR missing information or including too much information
- PARs missing signatures
- Corrections
- Duplicate PARs

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Agency vs PPSD

One of the most common errors that Personnel Specialists make, is sending PAR documents to PPSD for keying when they should key them at their own office. While PPSD is happy to assist in keying problem PAR transactions, they cannot afford to spend time keying any excess transactions.

In the PAM, there are very specific guidelines outlining what a Personnel Specialist should not key. One set of instructions is called the DO NOT Key list. This list is there to outline for Personnel Specialists what they should not key and what needs to be sent to PPSD. In addition, as you are documenting a PAR you might come across a note on one of the Required/Conditional Charts that tells you to send the document to PPSD for keying.

If you ever come across a question as to whether or not you should key something, please call the PPSD Customer Contact Center, (916) 372-7200, prior to sending the documented PAR over.

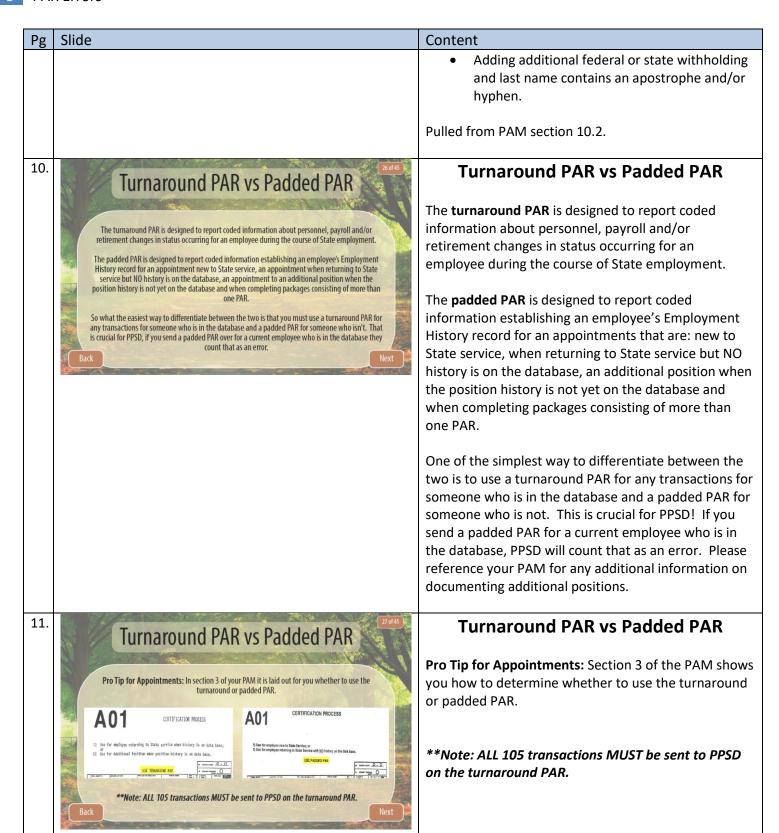
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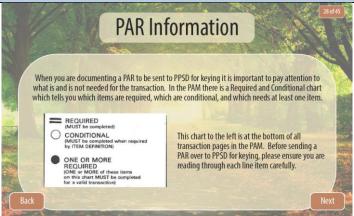
DO NOT KEY

Transactions which meet any of the conditions below; submit them to PPSD for keying, If any transactions in a package meet any of these conditions, submit the entire package to PPSD for keying.

- Out-of-sequence transaction involving multiple departments
- R01 Voids
- Void/Correction to adverse actions/rejections during probationary period due to appeal process
- Adverse Action "exceptions" refer to 5.70
- 105 transaction
- Emergency appointment for negative attendance employee and item 615 is NOT completed
- Item 105is completed with "SS5"
- Item 952 is completed
- Item 999 is completed
- S99 transaction
- Void of separation with lump sum and/or lump sum extra hours and reporting separation with a different effective date





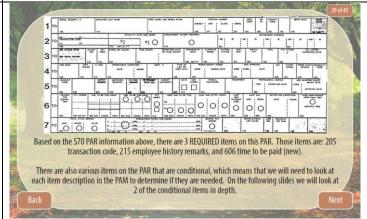


PAR Information

When documenting a PAR to be sent to PPSD for keying, it is important to pay attention to what is and is not needed for the transaction. In the PAM, there is a Required and Conditional chart that tells you which items are required, which are conditional, and which needs at least one item.

This chart to the left is at the bottom of all transaction pages in the PAM. Before sending a PAR over to PPSD for keying, please ensure you are reading through each line item carefully.

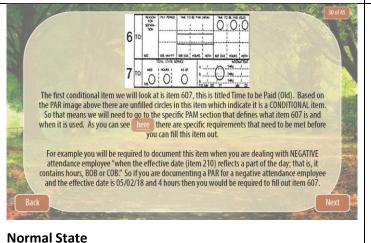
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Based on the S70 PAR information above, there are only 3 REQUIRED items on this PAR. Those items are: 205 transaction code, 210 effective date, and 606 time to be paid (new).

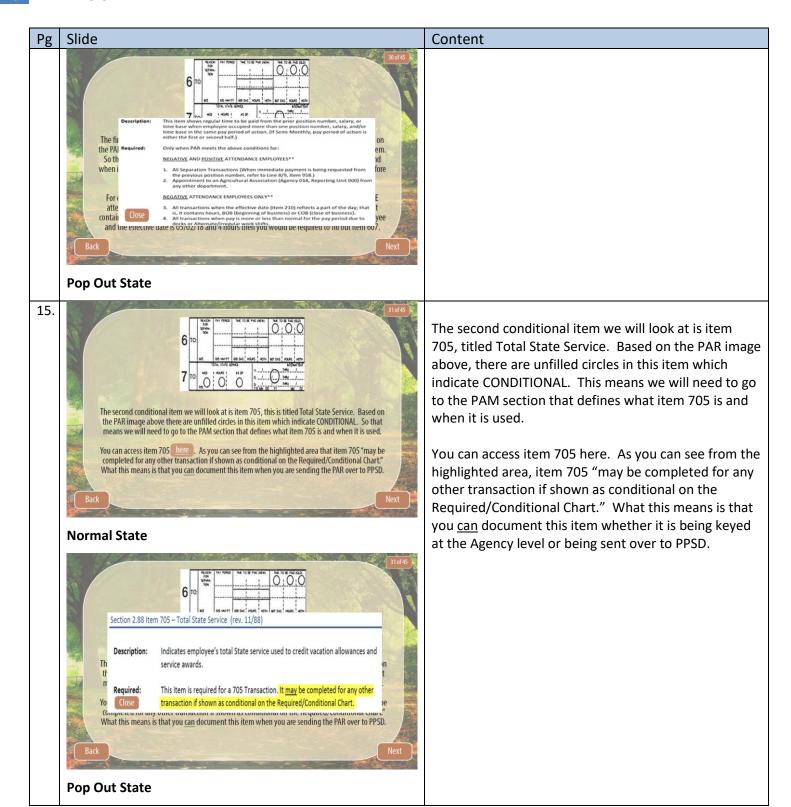
There are also various items on the PAR that are conditional, which means that we will need to look at each item description in the PAM to determine if they are needed. On the next slides, we will look at 2 of the conditional items in depth.

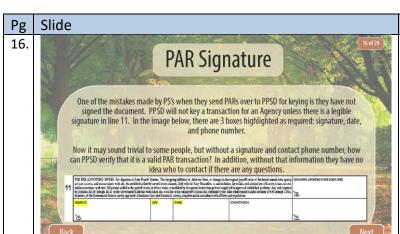
14.



The first conditional item we will look at is item 607, this is titled Time to be Paid (Old). Based on the PAR image above, there are unfilled circles in this item which indicate it is a CONDITIONAL item. This means we will need to go to the specific PAM section that defines what item 607 is and when it is used. As you can see here, there are specific requirements that need to be met before you can fill this item out.

For example you will be required to document this item when you are dealing with a NEGATIVE attendance employee or "when the effective date (item 210) reflects a part of the day; that is, it contains hours, BOB or COB." So, if you are documenting a PAR for a negative attendance employee, and the effective date is 05/02/18 and 4 hours then you would be required to fill out item 607.



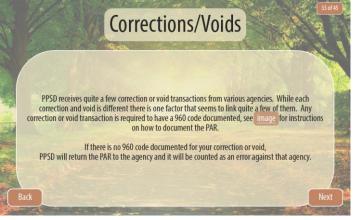


PAR Signature

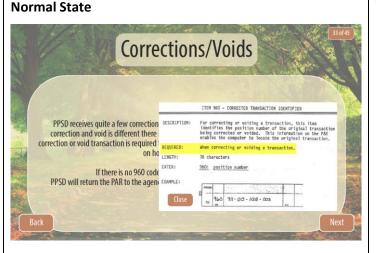
One of the mistakes made by PS's when they send PARs over to PPSD for keying is they have not signed the document. PPSD will not key a transaction for an Agency unless there is a legible signature in line 11. In the image below, there are 3 boxes highlighted as required: signature, date, and phone number.

Now it may sound trivial to some people, but without a signature or contact phone number, how can PPSD verify that it is a valid PAR transaction? In addition, without that information they have no idea who to contact if there are any questions.

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Pop Out State

Corrections/Voids

PPSD receives quite a few correction or void transactions from various agencies. While each correction and void is different, there is one factor that seems to link quite a few of them. Any correction or void transaction is required to have a 960 code documented (see image for instructions on how to document the PAR).

If there is no 960 code documented for your correction or void, PPSD will return the PAR to the agency, and it will be counted as an error against that agency.

The final PAR error that we will investigate is regarding duplicate PARs. As many people know there can be times when a PAR is sent to PPSD for keying but days, weeks, or months go by and it has still not been keyed. When that happens many people will just resend the PAR to PPSD. However, DON'T DO THAT...yet. If a duplicate PAR is received by PPSD they will count that as an error against the agency. Instead of sending a new PAR over there are 2 things you should do first: 1. Check the SCO HR Website for the Weekly Processing Dates. 2. Call the PPSD Customer Contact Center to verify if they have received the PAR. If you have completed both of those steps and PPSD advised they have not received the PAR then and only then should you resend the PAR.

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Duplicate PARs

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- 1. Check the SCO HR website for the Weekly Processing Dates.
- 2. Call the PPSD Customer Contact Center to verify if they have received the PAR.

If you have completed both of those steps and PPSD advised they have not received the PAR, then and only then should you resend the PAR.

19.



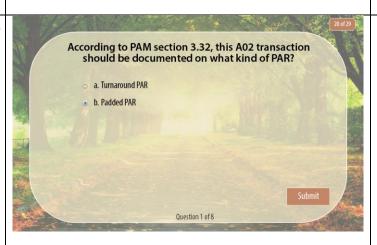
QUIZ

Now that you are aware of some of the common PAR error messages let's take a quick quiz to test your knowledge. The following slides contain 8 questions that are in reference to the PAR errors we have discussed, as well as questions specific to the PAM.

Please make sure you have your PAM handy, or you can access the digital copy online.

Good Luck!

20.



According to PAM section 3.32, this A02 transaction should be documented on what kind of PAR?

- A) Turnaround PAR
- B) Padded PAR

